

HIS MAJESTIES  
S P E E C H

DELIVERED THE

Twenty second of *January*,

1 6 4 3.

TO THE

*MEMBERS' OF THE*

TWO HOUSES OF

PARLIAMENT

AT

O X F O R D.



Printed At O X F O R D,

By *Leonard Lichfield*, Printer to the University.

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HIS MAJESTY  
SPEECH

DELIVERED THE

Twenty second of January

1843

TO THE

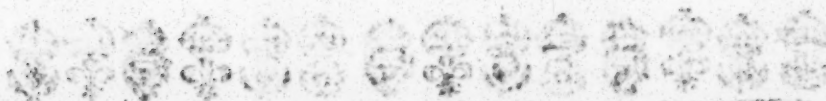
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PARLIAMENT

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OXFORD



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By the University of Oxford

1843



HIS  
MAJESTIES  
SPEECH

Delivered the twenty second  
of January, 1643.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*



HEN I consider your  
publique Interests and  
Concernments in the  
happinesse and honour  
of this Nation, and your  
particular sufferings in  
this Rebellion, for your affection and Loy-  
alty to Me; I must look upon you as the  
most competent Considerers and Coun-  
sellours

fellours how to Manage and improve the Condition We are all in: for sure our condition is so equall, that the same violence hath oppressed Us all.

I have therefore called you together to be witnesses of my Actions, and privy to My Intentions; and certainly if I had the least thought, disagreeing with the happiness and security of this Kingdome, I would not advise with such Counsellors, and I doubt not but your Concurrence with Me will so farre prevaile over the hearts and understandings of this whole Kingdome, (who must looke upon you as persons naturally and originally trusted by and for them) that it will be above the reach and malice of those who have hitherto had too great an influence upon the People, to discredit my most entire Actions; and sincere Promises; you will be the best Witnesses for the one, and security for the other.

Very many of you can beare Mee witness with what unwillingnesse I suffered

My



My selfe first to take up these defensive Armes; indeed with so great, that I was first almost in the power of those who in two or three Battails, have sufficiently informed the World how tender they have been of the safety of My Person. I foresaw not only the rage and oppression which would every day breake out upon My Subjects, as the malice of these ill men increased, & their purposes were detected; but also the great inconveniences My best Subjects would suffer even by My owne Army, raised and kept for their preservation and protection; for I was not so ill a Souldier, as not to foresee how impossible it was to keep a strict discipline, I being to struggle with so many defects and necessities; & I assure you the sense I have of their sufferings, who deserve well of Me, by My Forces, hath been a greater greife to Me then any thing for My own particular, My hope was, that either by successe on My part, or Repentance on theirs, God would have put a short end to this great

storme. But Guilt and Despaire have made  
 these Men more wicked, then I imagine  
 they at first intended to be; for instead of re-  
 moving and reconciling these bloody di-  
 stractions, and restoring Peace to this lan-  
 guishing Countrey, they have invited a  
 Forraigne Power to invade this Kingdom,  
 and that in your names, and challenge this  
 Invasion from them as a debt to the Com-  
 mon-Wealth. You (My Lords) have, like  
 yourselves (as good *Patriots*) expressed  
 your dissent, and vindicated your selves  
 from that imputation: and I doubt not but  
 you (Gentlemen) will let your Countries  
 know, how farr you are from desiring  
 such Assistance, and how absolute and pe-  
 remptory a breach this raising of Armes of  
 My Scots Subjects is of that Pacification,  
 which was so lately and solemnly made  
 by you, and can intend nothing but a Con-  
 quest of you and your Lawes. I shall send  
 you all the advertisements, I have of that  
 busines which is threatened from *Scotland*,  
 and what is already acted from thence;

and

(5)

and shall desire your speedy advice and assistance what is to be said or done, both with reference to this, and that Kingdom.

Our ends being the same, I am sure there will be no other difference in the way, then what upon debate and right understanding will be easily adjusted. Let our Religion (in which We are all most nearly concerned, and without care of which We must not looke for God's blessing) be vindicated and preserved; Let our Honour and Rights (which you find to have an inseparable relation with your owne interests) be vindicated and restored; Let your Liberties, Properties, Priviledges (without which I would not be your King) be secured and confirmed, and there is nothing you can advise me to, I will not meet you in, and I doubt not We shall together inform Posterity, how much our trust and confidence in each other, is a better expedient for the Peace and preservation of the Kingdom, then Feares & Jealousies.



(6)

I shall keep you no longer from consulting together, then in telling you, that I have prepared fit places for your Meetings, to which I desire you to repair this night; assuring you, That I will be alwaies ready to receive any thing from you, admitting you to Me, or comming to you My Selfe, whensoever you shall desire. And so God direct you the best way.



FINIS!





